

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compression molded fuel tank, which comprises: a first and second section, each of which is a laminate of at least two dissimilar materials, wherein said sections are affixed together at peripheral portions thereof to form a closed, hollow member with an internal cavity therein, and including an inlet to said cavity; wherein the laminate of each section includes an outer plastic film layer and an inner plastic layer, and wherein each laminate is a compression molded laminate.

2. A compression molded fuel tank according to claim 1, wherein each section includes a peripheral flange, and wherein said sections are affixed together at said peripheral flanges.

3. A compression molded fuel tank according to claim 1, wherein said compression molded sections include a connecting portion therebetween.

4. A compression molded fuel tank according to claim 1, including at least one baffle within the closed, hollow member.

5. A compression molded fuel tank according to claim 1, including at least one of a fuel pump and a fuel level sensor within the closed, hollow member.

6. A compression molded fuel tank according to claim 1, wherein the film is a mono-layer film.

7. A compression molded fuel tank according to claim 1, wherein the film is a multi-layer film.

8. A compression molded fuel tank according to claim 6, wherein the film is one of high density polyethylene, polypropylene, or polyamide.

9. A compression molded fuel tank according to claim 7, wherein the multi-layer film is one of (1) high density polyethylene-polyamide, (2) polypropylene-polyamide, (3) high density polyethylene-polyamide-high density polyethylene, (4) high density polyethylene-ethylvinyl alcohol, (5) high density polyethylene-ethylvinyl alcohol-high density polyethylene, and (6) high density polyethylene-ethylvinyl alcohol-polyamide.

10. A compression molded fuel tank according to claim 1, including at least two inner plastic layers.

11. A compression molded fuel tank according to claim 1, wherein said inner plastic layer is at least one of high density polyethylene, polypropylene, and polyamide.

12. A compression molded fuel tank according to claim 1, including reinforcing materials in each section.

13. A compression molded fuel tank according to claim 1, including conductive additives to each section to reduce static electricity build-up.

14. A compression molded fuel tank according to claim 1, wherein each section has barrier properties.

15. A compression molded fuel tank according to claim 1, wherein the film has a thickness of from about 0.010 inch to 0.050 inch, and the plastic layer has a thickness of from about 0.050 inch to 0.40 inch.

16. A compression molded fuel tank according to claim 1, including a barrier layer on the plastic layer.

17. A method for forming a compression molded fuel tank, which comprises: compression molding first and second laminates for first and second sections of said fuel tank, each having at least two dissimilar materials, wherein the laminate of each section includes an outer plastic film layer and an inner plastic layer; affixing said sections together at peripheral portions thereof to form a closed hollow member with an internal cavity therein; and forming an inlet to said internal cavity.

18. A method according to claim 17, including affixing said sections together at a peripheral flange of each section.

19. A method according to claim 17, including providing that the film is one of a mono-layer film and a multi-layer film.

20. A method according to claim 12, including providing at least two inner plastic layers.